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Vancouver

the MECCA of the

Tourist



by
ROLAND D. GRANT
M.A., D.D.

The

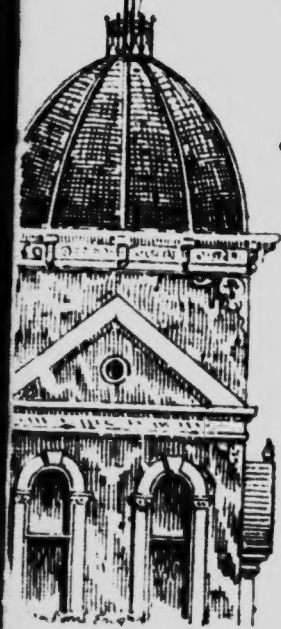
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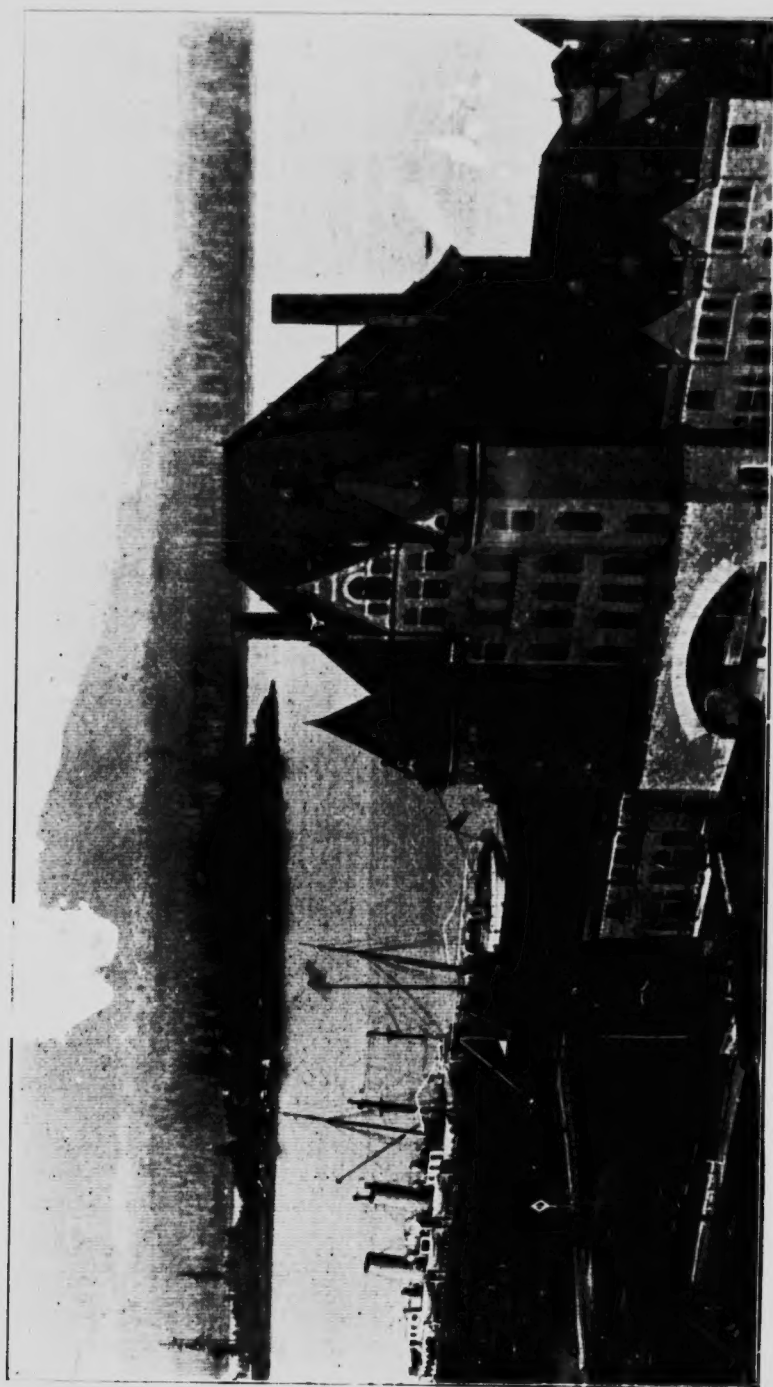
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VANCOUVER STATION, HARBOR, AND ATHLETIC GROUNDS.

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THE SUNSET DOORWAY OF THE DOMINION

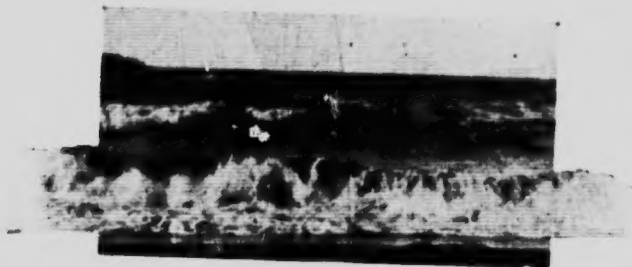


I AM NOT INTENDING now to deliver to you a Lecture on travel, but I would be pleased to extend a most sincere

Welcome to Vancouver, B.C.

AND THE FAR NORTHWEST

Of course you are intending to travel somewhere. Why not come this way, and so enjoy with us the best—here at the ends of the earth, where the sun falls into the western sea.



Where are We? Vancouver is a city approaching forty thousand inhabitants, being the last city on the mainland in the Province of British Columbia, toward the going down of the sun.

Three thousand miles from Montreal, it is situated on a peninsula, nearly surrounded by the waters of the Pacific Ocean, and easy of access by rail or sail from Tacoma or Seattle, or by delightful sail from Victoria or Nanaimo, and east or south by all the great transcontinental railroads. It is the terminus of the Canadian Pacific, and here connections are made

with many Oriental steamers. The routes now to the Far East are by way of the Far West and pass through our beautiful city.

The Name VANCOUVER is named for the early English voyager who himself a century ago gave names to most of the mountains and scenic points on this northwest coast. It is interesting to know that most of the names he gave are still in good repute, and it seems becoming that this city, which is bound to be the largest in the Dominion, should bear his name.

How Old are We The traveling public is ever looking for new worlds to explore, looking for something novel and out of the usual. In this wilderness city by the western sea the Tourist will find an inexhaustible source of novelty. The city itself is a continual surprise, and the newcomer never ceases to express this emotion.

After traveling five hundred miles through mountain grandeur one cannot account for the sudden presence of such full grown civilization, as the train rolls into the nine-story station.

In fact this city has grown so fast that the great trees are still fighting for their place against the rapidly spreading streets and business blocks, disputing their claim. You will occasionally find enormous primeval stumps fifty feet in circumference still holding alternately vacant lots, and you may be sure they will not give up, only after the hardest struggle.

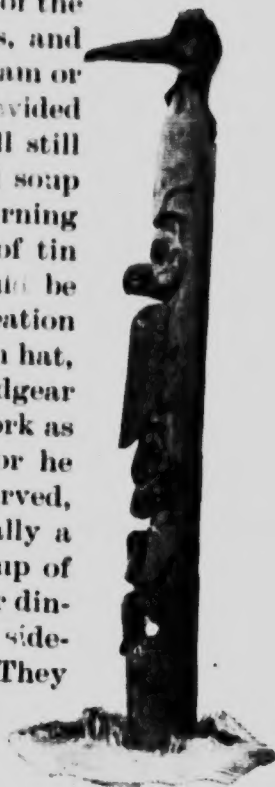
B. C. is quite suggestive of great antiquity, but the city is very young. It is impossible to realize that in 1886 there was but one building of any kind standing here. In that house lives a kinsman of Henry Ward Beecher. No one born in the city of Vancouver has ever yet been married here. These are hints of its youth.

The Red Man The Tourist in his long ride across the continent has hurried out of the train to gaze at every red-blanketed squaw only to find when he arrives here a real live Indian reservation in the very city limits.



INDIAN FAMILY AND TEPEE.

Here he can see the red man of the forest in his real native haunts, and talk with him in his cabin, wigwam or council chamber; that is, provided you can talk Chinook. You will still find him carrying his water and soap in the tepee-made baskets, spurning thus your new-fangled notions of tin pails and buckets. If you should be tempted to swop your Paris creation of a bonnet for the Klootchman hat, you will find the squaw's headgear brings the larger price in New York as a curiosity. You can paddle, or he will do it for you, in his well-carved, high-pointed canoe, which is really a work of art. Occasionally a group of a dozen will be found camped for dinner in some retired nook on the sidewalk in the heart of the city. They are always glad to dicker, and one finds they have hearts like other mortals, and a civilization not wanting in many points of comfort and pleasure. There is a bewitching charm in their natural life.



An Afternoon's
Fishing.



in great numbers for playing of Hia-watha, or copying the Oberammergau Passion Play, which they do with some originality.

If you are so fortunate as to be here at the time of a great Potlatch or festival, then they will be found camped about by the thousands, for in the last few years they have gathered

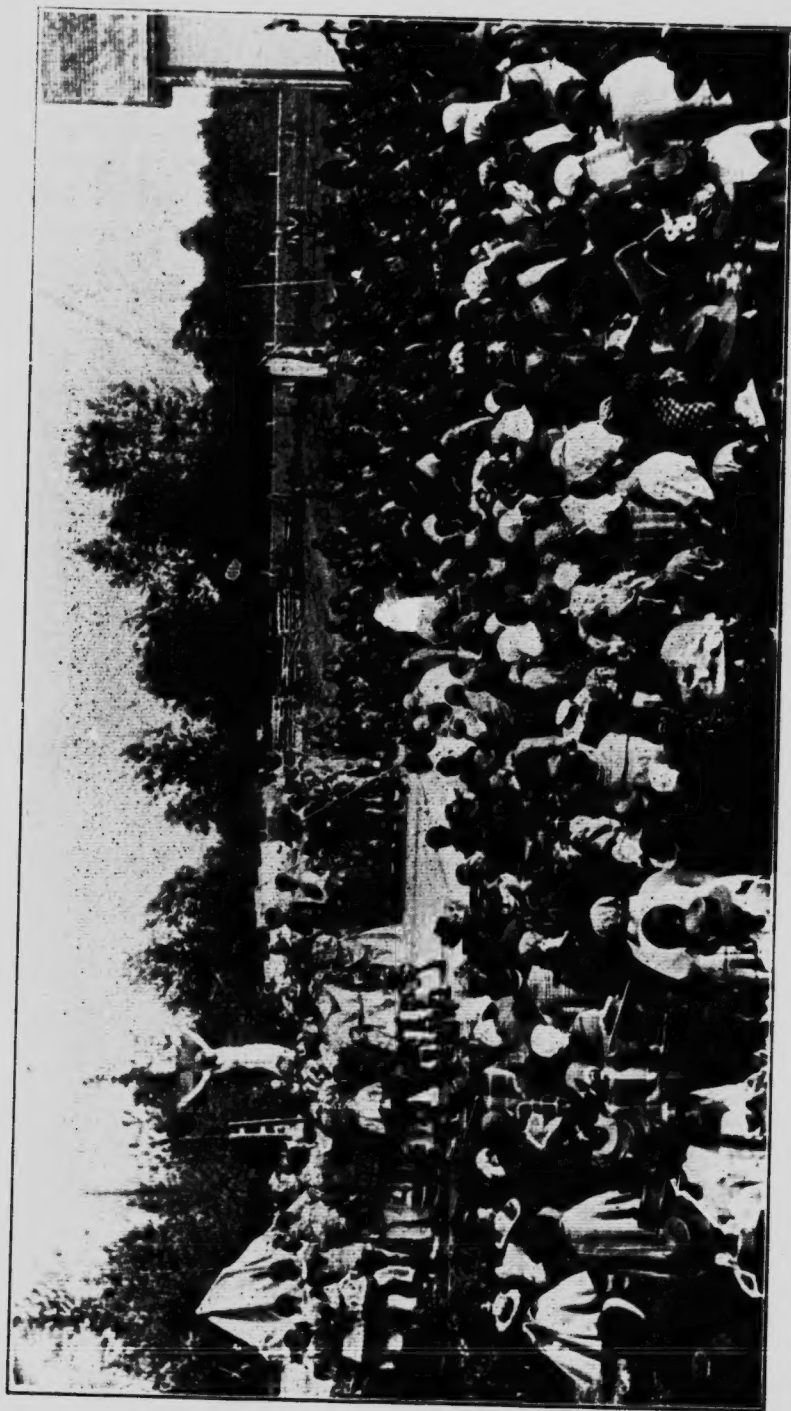


Photo by Thompson

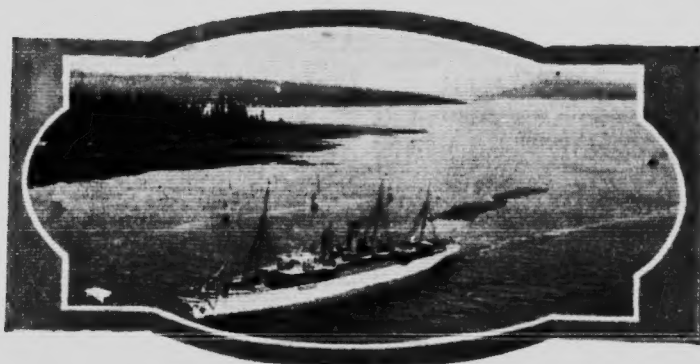
INDIAN PASSION PLAY.—(2000 Redskins)

A Foreign City Surely the American Tourist will call Vancouver foreign, for he soon finds that he has "gone abroad" without leaving the continent. Here he meets people from all nations, and the plainest man



The Orient in the Occident.

he meets may have encircled the globe many times, for a more cosmopolitan city cannot be found, and every man says "good night," for "good evening."



Empress Liner going out of Narrows; Boom of Giant Logs coming in.

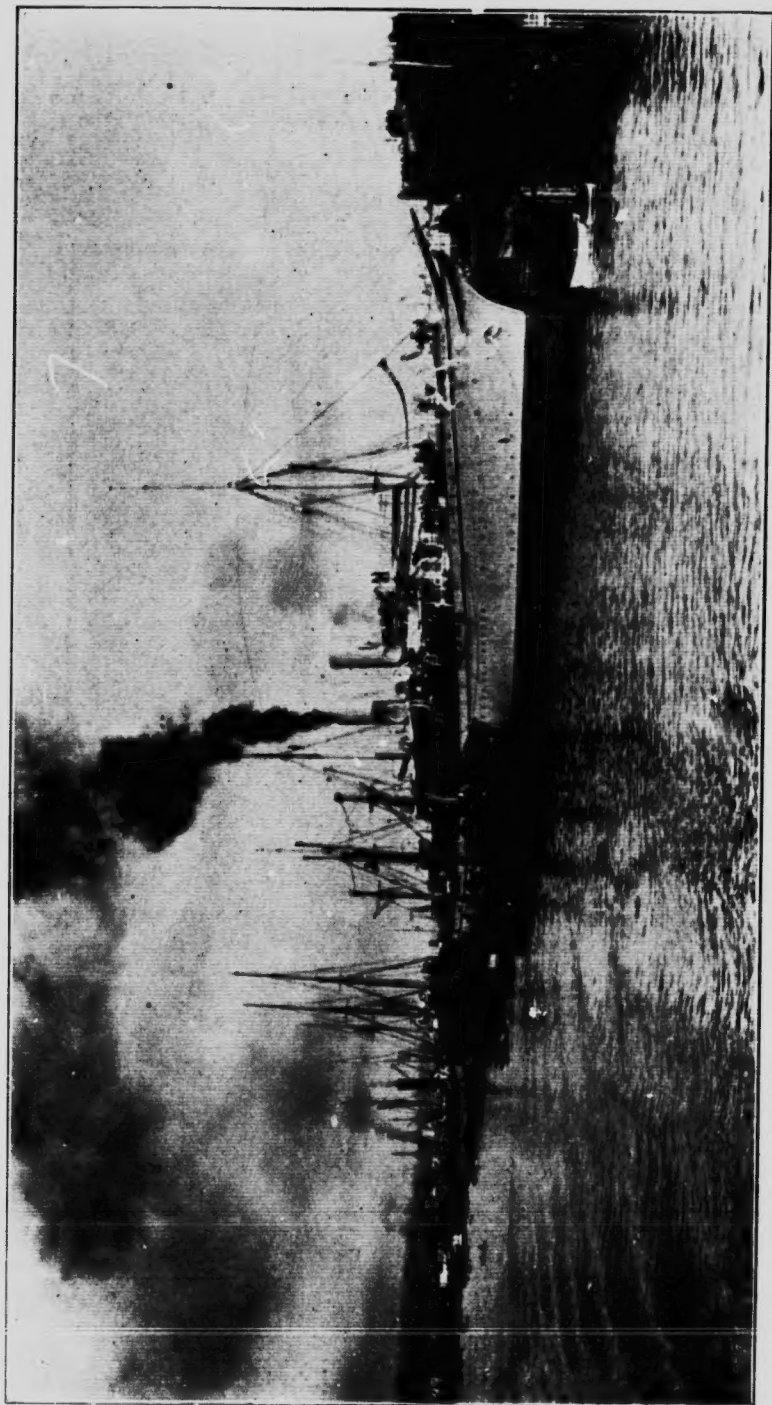


Photo by Edwards.

A MILE OF VANCOUVER HARBOR.

Commerce

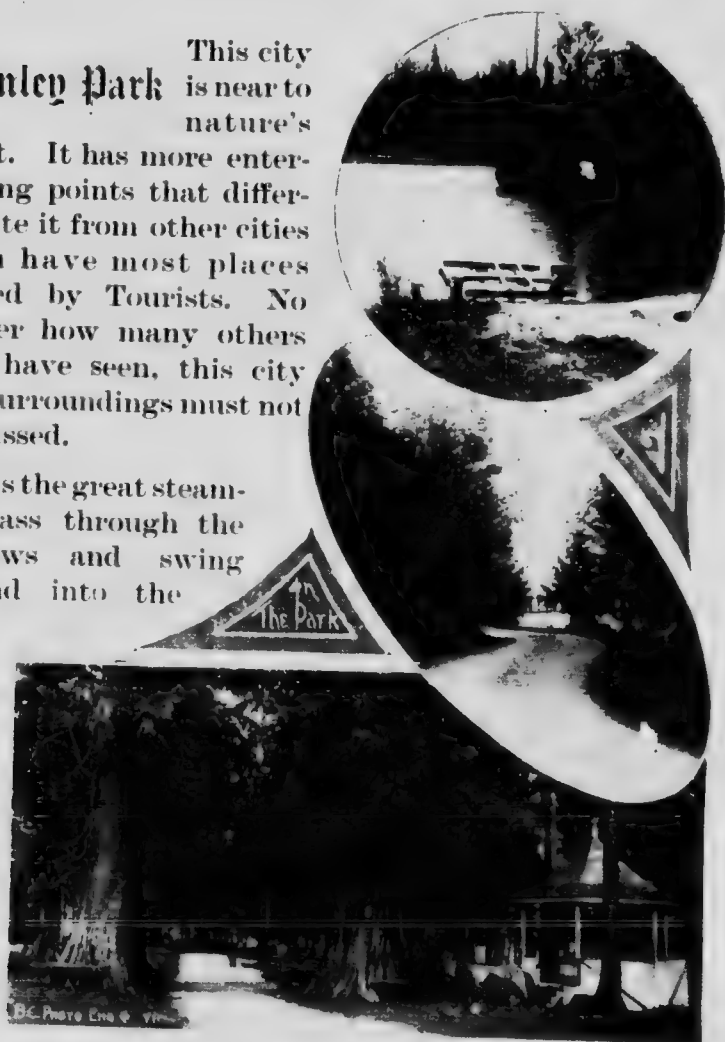
A walk in the miles of dock and maritime freight sheds reveals endless stacks of foreign-marked goods from uttermost parts of earth. In several lines larger shipments of Oriental goods arrive on this North Coast than the entire Eastern States. Millions worth of silks are landed here every month. Wise judges say the Pacific commerce in twenty-five years will equal that of the Atlantic.

It is not rare even now to see far ocean vessels enough in our harbor to fill over a mile of docks.

Stanley Park

This city is near to nature's heart. It has more entertaining points that differentiate it from other cities than have most places visited by Tourists. No matter how many others you have seen, this city and surroundings must not be missed.

As the great steamers pass through the narrows and swing around into the



B.C. Photo Eng. & Print.

magnificent harbor, they encircle the splendid Stanley Park, where the Government has preserved an altogether unique pleasure forest. Here among wild, impassable, intertangled growths, stand the great trees whose circumference it will take ten sets of arms to embrace, and one tree with a burned out centre large enough to hold an audience of forty. I have Lectured on ferns to near that number in the tree, though there was hardly room to take up a collection.

From these forests have been cut single sticks of timber twenty-four inches square and one hundred and twenty-five feet in length, without one knot. Here the undergrowth is so luxuriant and tropical that the ferns and bracken reach a height of over ten feet. A day, a week or a month can be spent searching for new paths in this ocean-girt primeval forest park—just what you have longed to enjoy in all your long trip. I have seen many parks, at home and abroad, but this is the only satisfying one. The Pacific Ocean waters play and foam around the park, forming a bewitching shore line of seven miles.

From the open spaces and roadways, Mountains rise before you in all directions, from a few thousand



Mt Baker from Vancouver.

feet to yonder snow-capped and snow-skirted Mount Baker, two miles and a half into the heavens.

As the mountains here are all seen from the sea level, they are vastly taller mountains than others of the same altitude seen in inland parts, so that Pike's Peak, as seen from Denver, would have to reach twenty thousand feet to match one here like Baker or Mt. Tacoma of fifteen thousand. This is a peculiar feature of this coast scenery. Simple altitude is nothing if seen from an altitude, but individuality of scenery is everything.

A Health Resort The vast coniferous forests give the air a tone of health that can be felt and enjoyed at every breath. It has not been uncommon for men who have been worn out in some Oriental clime, on going home to recuperate, to stop over here, intending to stay only a day or two, finding this climate so invigorating their days have grown to weeks. Surprised then to find themselves able to tramp among the trees they soon found here the health they sought, and returned directly from here to business.

For a part of the year, at least, the winds of the early day are from the east, changing at noon to west; hence the morning breezes come laden with the breath of the vast sea of pine forests that cover the great Mountains, while in the afternoon the breezes, always gentle, are filled with the ozone from the western seas.

Sea Bathing These warm Pacific waters form a charming crescent beach into the city centre, where they are spending large moneys to create an Ocean Park, of which no other city can boast. Miles of warm sea bathing beach, where tiny hexagonal crystals sparkle in the sand, and great salmon jump in the sun, and whales play in the bay.



Photo by Waddis

DR. GRANT MEASURING CEDARS IN THE PARK.

This Ocean Park will soon be a dream of beauty.

Every combination of undefiled nature quiets the most nervous to restful sleep. Indeed, that "nature's sweet restorer" needs not to be sought and wooed, for it seeks the visitor the first night in this atmosphere. In the long summer evenings, when one can read outdoors until ten o'clock, conditions are simply perfect, and make one feel that life is worth living. It is never hot here and it is never cold, and few changes of clothing are ever made from one season to another, and pestering insects and mosquitoes never bother in the city. No ice here only what is manufactured. No thunder storms ever trouble.

If that vast army of hay fever sufferers would abide here for a short season, they would find quick relief of their irritating distress, as this clarified air is a panacea for that tantalizing complaint, while all malaria is unknown.

Climbing

IF YOU WANT IT

The Tourist who wants rugged mountain climbing can be satisfied not far away. Even a Mazama, an Appalachian or Sierra Mountain Club member can be made happy here, and stretch his legs over a wild mountain snarl of ledge and tree and shrub he never dreamed of elsewhere. From goodly heights he will catch views of crag and river landscape most charming.

The less rugged and strong can quickly get to easy heights and glens of wildwood or bewitching canyon, through which tumble foaming torrents. These can all be reached without effort by footpath, pony trail or even carriage drive in many places; and a bicycle is not a bad companion, for many trails are very smooth.

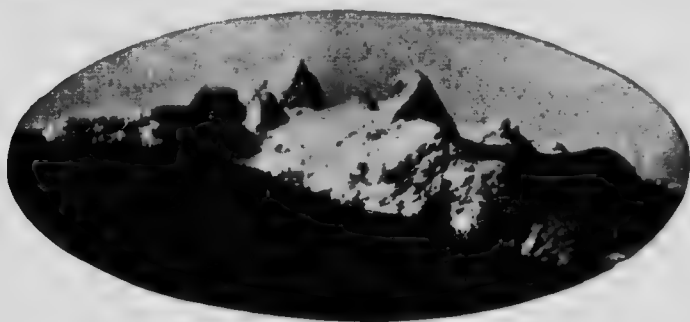


Speaking of bicycles, this is wheelman's paradise, for cinder paths are on many streets, and even in wild



forest trails it is safe to ride, provided you turn to the left instead of the right, which is the law of the road here (though contrary to nature, this writer is prepared to show, but we submit gracefully).

If one wants to come in contact with a real gold mine, he has but a pleasant sail to satisfy his wish, while a day's trip takes him to the now famous coal mines in unique Nanaimo, on Vancouver Island. That Island stretches Northward along the west of the Gulf of Georgia, three hundred miles from the Straits of Juan de Fuca, and makes our sunsets as beautiful as Italy can boast.



The Lions guarding the Gates of the City.

Easy and safe steamers ply up the coast among the silent fiords that match the world-famous heights of the North Sea and the Norway coast. The fiords here in this Western archipelago are greater in number and distance. A day's sail on Howe Sound is positively beautiful. The views from the deck, of the snow-capped Garibaldi, and miles of crags and cliffs, will never be forgotten, but satisfy your wish for the wild.



AMONG THE TEN-FOOT FERNS.

Alaska Far away run the inland seas to great Alaska, whose mysterious world lies nearest to this port. An Alaskan Tourist from the East should insist upon being routed this way. From that land of the midnight sun comes a continual stream of the yellow gold that flows through this and other coast cities.

The Sportsman If the sportsman comes he will find a virgin world before him. Let him stand first on the bluff, or on the deck of a moonlight excursion steamer, and watch the thousands of lights that glimmer at night on the fishing boats.

The endless fleet of these that go down to the deep at evening, literally by thousands, is a sight not to be met with anywhere else in the world. Go out once with a regular fisherman to troll in the mighty sea, or on the bay. Sometimes these waters are literally alive with salmon, until their fins show above the surface.

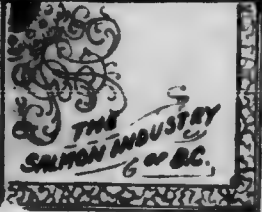
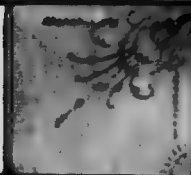
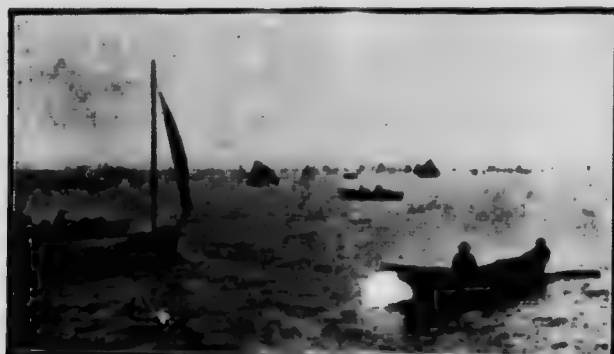
Go a day or more with a rod and fly to whip the crystal brooks and creeks that never send you home with an empty basket.

This sport is endless and exciting among these conditions.

Game If one's taste is to kill larger game, then the near by woods are filled with grouse, while splendid deer and bear come to yonder north shore of the Inlet to gaze and wonder at the changes taking place on the city side. The stranger will easily find someone here to join in his wildest sport.



You can hunt here with a camera, as that takes more genius. The high hills are the home of the goats.



Speaking of sport, all forms of athletics have good representation here, like the English game of Cricket and Canadian game of Lacrosse, and the Brockton Point Athletic Grounds in Stanley Park are so beautiful that they would charm an Olympic racer from the Grecian fields. It is doubtful if another such a nature-surrounded athletic field can be found in the world.



Mountains and Lakes

If one will make Vancouver his centre for a season, he can in a day's ride or less come to the most magnificent scenery. If he would find cliffs that rise a mile perpendicular they are to be found. If he would see lakes that have no equal in beauty or charm, then the mountains to the east of us are full of them. The lakes of Switzerland are not to be compared to some rare gems found in these awful mountain arenas. There are bewitching lakes of emerald green, surrounded by fields of eternal snow and ice, where the surface of the lake is higher than the top of Mount Washington, and the mountain peaks still rise another Mount Washington height above the lakes.

There are single glaciers in these ranges that are larger than all the glaciers of Europe put together. There are grandeurs of this order easily accessible from Vancouver by rail or boat or pony ride



Hunting & Fishing



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"I Told You So"

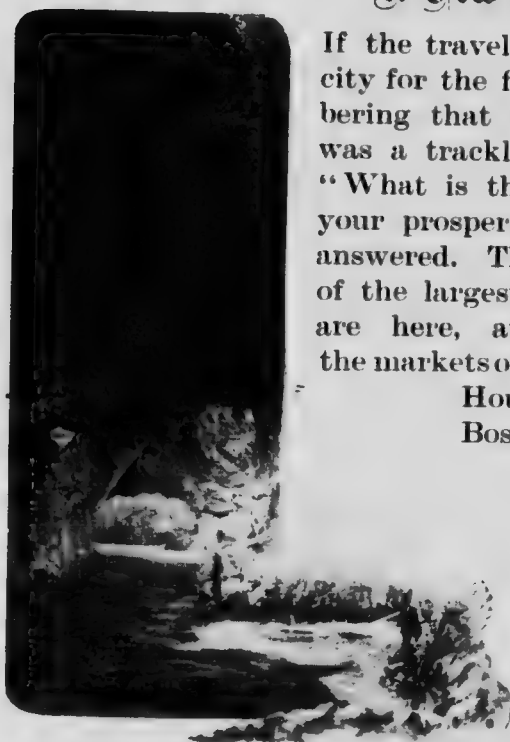
Some who are just finding these things out are wondering why they never knew them before. Your humble servant has been telling this in his Lectures East and South for years to incredulous audiences, who begin now to believe it. In less than ten years the tide of Tourist travel through this city and scenery will have no equal. How glad I am that I tramped it all while it was new!

Edward Whymper, the most famous Swiss mountain-climber, says: "These vast ranges are appalling in their immensity and grandeur, for here are fifty Switzerlands rolled into one. * * * If all mountain climbers in the world were to make a combined attempt to explore these Northwestern Ranges, their task would not be completed within a hundred years."

A Few Questions

If the traveler who sees this city for the first time, remembering that but yesterday it was a trackless forest, asks: "What is the foundation of your prosperity?" it is easily answered. The largest forests of the largest pine and cedar are here, and now supply the markets of the world.

Houses in Shanghai, Boston, or South Africa are covered with cedar shingles that were sawed in Burrard Inlet, our harbor.



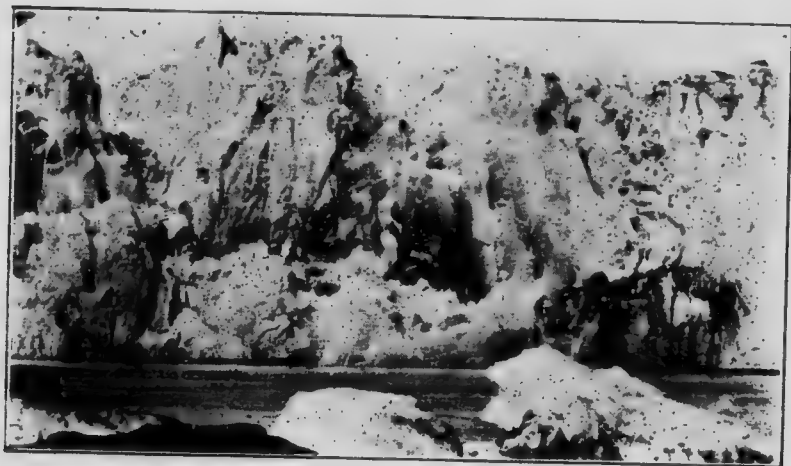


A Few Hints They have been a little slow to make it known, but gold mines of this Province are rich as Klondike or Africa, and other minerals in good proportion. The Salmon fisheries amount to millions of wealth each season, while trainloads of Halibut leave here for Boston every few days, and the general commerce of the port is gaining continuously.



Among the Islands.

As to possible commerce from this port, there are over 600,000,000 acres of tillable land west of Winnipeg. If one acre in six should be cultivated to wheat, at the minimum of fifteen bushels to the acre, it would supply one train of forty freight cars every fifteen minutes for six months. No one can tell how much of this will soon come this way.



Front of Alaskan Glacier.

A Few Facts Vancouver is the largest city in British Columbia. It is but 17 years old and now has a rapidly growing population nearing forty thousand.

Hotel accommodations compare with any city.

It has ideal summer climate, free from malaria, evenings always cool, air pure, refreshing and free from storms.

It is the home port of the Empress line of Royal Mail Steamships to the Orient, Sandwich Islands, New Zealand and Australia.

Also steamers to Alaska and all north and south coast points, including Portland and San Francisco.

It has the largest saw and shingle mills.

The Government Assay Office is here.

This is the natural headquarters for Tourists of the Great Northwest.

This last winter here has been equal to an Eastern month of May, and all that could be called real winter was inside of ten days, and all the snow fall not over six inches, while the flowers never quite gave up. I picked pansies every week in our yard.

The schools are in every sense first class. Churches of all denominations.

The water supply from high Capilano Canyon is simply perfect and plenty.

Every facility is here for enjoying a day or a year,

When you purchase tickets for Lewis and Clarke exposition in Portland, Oregon, be sure they read one way by Vancouver, British Columbia, as it will add nothing to the expense and much to your pleasure.

The Tourist Association is always glad to be of service whether you are to stop in the city or merely passing this way. Their rooms are near the Post-office, and free to all.

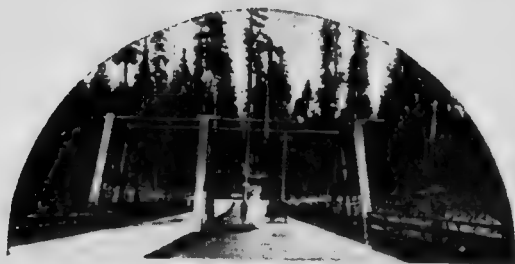
It is but an hour's ride in electric cars to beautiful New Westminster on the Fraser.

Thirty trips from Atlantic to Pacific by every route, and journey days in Europe, have fitted me to know and appreciate this continent, and I do not hesitate to say, when you have taken the magnificent wild tour of the Northwest Canadian mountains and heavenly blue lakes, spent some days in and about Vancouver, and seen the Yellowstone Park, you will have seen the best the earth has to show. If you have come west by the Yellowstone route, do not miss the chance to return by the Canadian Mountain route, or *vice versa*. Anything short of these two sublime points will be always incomplete and unsatisfying.

The traveler from any nation will be pleased to find his flag and Consulate here to give him welcome and assistance.

Yours while these everlasting hills abide,

ROLAND DWIGHT GRANT.

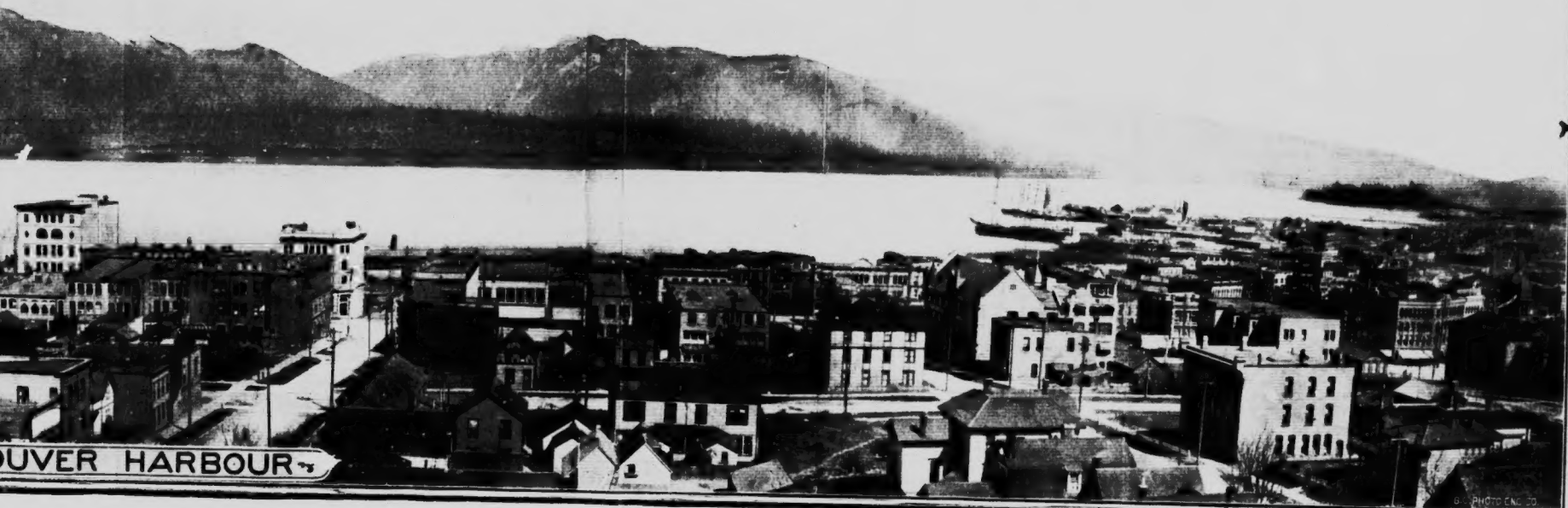


Entrance to Stanley Park.





✦ VANCOUVER



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